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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-16	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01
	CORE-00	/060W					

-----027FE6 080620Z /25

R 051506Z NOV 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4997
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 03989

E.O. 12356:
DESIGNATE TWAGIRAMUNGU. REFUSED PERMISSION FOR THE
DEMONSTRATION BY THE PREFET, THE HARDLINERS DECIDED
TO GO AHEAD ANYWAY. IN A CLIMATE OF GREAT TENSION,
AND AGAINST A MASSIVE GENDARMERIE PRESENCE, THE
DEMONSTRATION FIZZLED, AMASSING A MAXIMUM OF 400

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PERSONS. ALTHOUGH THE PARMEHUTU SOUGHT TO INVOLVE
ALL HUTUS, THE MRND AND EVEN THE CDR BOYCOTTED THE
RALLY, AND TWAGIRAMUNGU USED THE OCCASION TO SCOLD
HIS ERSTWHILE COLLEAGUES FOR BRINGING ETHNICISM
(BACK) INTO POLITICS. IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO JUDGE
WHETHER THIS ABORTED CONFRONTATION WILL LEAD TO
RENEWED EFFORTS AT RECONCILIATION WITHIN THE MDR, OR
MORE CONFRONTATION. END SUMMARY.

MDR AGONY

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3. FOLLOWING UP ON ITS MODESTLY SUCCESSFUL RALLY OCTOBER 23 IN PROTEST AGAINST THE COUP ATTEMPT IN BURUMDI, THE MDR PARMEHUTU BRANCH (MUREGO AND KARAMIRA), SOUGHT TO ORGANIZE A DEMONSTRATION TODAY, NOVEMBER 5. WITH TRACTS AND SOUND TRUCKS THEY TRIED TO ATTRACT ALL HUTUS TO JOIN IN THEIR DEMONSTRATION, THE AVOWED PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS TO PROTEST THE APPOINTMENT OF FORMER MDR PRESIDENT, FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUMGU, AS THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE GTBE.

4. THE MDR HARDLINERS CHOSE A ROUTE THAT WOULD GO FROM THE CENTER OF KIGALI PAST THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND UP TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, WITH THE RUMORED INTENTION OF FORCING THE SO-CALLED MDR MINISTERS OF INFORMATION AND THE PRIME MINISTER TO VACATE THEIR OFFICES AND PERMIT THE PARMEHUTU WING OF THE MDR TO APPOINT REPLACEMENTS. THE PREFET OF KIGALI DENIED PERMISSION FOR THE MARCH. THE PREFET SUGGESTED THE DEMONSTRATION COULD BE HELD ON SOME OTHER DAY, BUT NOT ON A WORKDAY WHERE IT WOULD

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INTERFERE WITH THE WORK AND BUSINESS OF OTHERS. UNDER THE PRETENSE THAT THE DENIAL WAS RECEIVED LESS THAN 48 HOURS FROM THE SCHEDULED TIME OF THE MARCH, THE MDR DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH THE MARCH. THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE THE DATE ACCEPTED BUT THE ROUTE CHANGED TO GO FROM THE BUS STATION TO THE REGIONAL STADIUM AS MOST OTHER EVENTS GO, BUT NOT PAST EITHER THE OFFICES OR RESIDENCES OF THE THREATENED OFFICIALS. APPARENTLY THE NEGOTIATIONS NEVER GOT TO THE POINT WHERE HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER THAT ALTERNATIVE, SO MDR MILITANTS WERE INSTRUCTED TO ASSEMBLE IN KIGALI THIS MORNING.

5. FOR HIS PART, PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE TWANIRAMUNGU WAS QUESTIONED ON RADIO RWANDA LAST NIGHT ABOUT THE PLANNED DEMONSTRATION. HE EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT POLITICAL PARTIES SHOULD HAVE A RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE BUT WONDERED WHY THEY WERE SO INTERESTED IN CHALLENGING THE PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE (HIMSELF). TWAGIRAMUNGU EXPRESSED DEEP REGRET THAT SOME POLITICAL PARTIES (A FACTION OF HIS OWN PARTY) HAD CHOSEN TO INTRODUCE THE ETHNIC QUESTION INTO THE POLITICAL DEBATE, OBVIOUSLY

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REFERRING TO THE TRACTS CALLING FOR ALL HUTUS TO SHOW UP. AND HE SENT HIS PEOPLE INTO THE STREETS TO URGE HIS FOLLOWERS TO AVOID THE DEMONSTRATION.

THE DEMONSTRATION

6. ALSO LAST EVENING, THE PREFET WENT ON THE RADIO
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THREATENING DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR ANYBODY WHO HELD AN
UNAUTHORIZED DEMONSTRATION. HE TOLD THE GENDARMES
THAT THEY SHOULD BREAK IT UP IF IT HAPPENED, AND EVEN

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-----01EA2C 051954Z /38

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 03989

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PHUM, PINR, RW
SUBJECT: MDR FAILS IN EFFORT TO EXPLOIT BURUNDI

SUGGESTED THAT SOME PEOPLE MIGHT TAKE ILLEGAL
DEMONSTRATORS TO THE GENDARMES FOR INCARCERATION.

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7. WITH ALL THAT HOOPLA, KIGALI HUNKERED DOWN THIS MORNING, FEARING THE WORST. IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. GOVERNMENT BUSES WERE RUNNING FROM 6:00 A.M., ALTHOUGH THE PRIVATELY-OWNED TAXIS DIDN'T APPEAR UNTIL QUITE A BIT LATER. A GROUP OF 200 TO 400 PEOPLE JOINED AT THE ROUND POINT NEAR THE CENTER OF TOWN BUT WERE DISPERSED BY ONE TEAR GAS GRENADE. SHOPS BEGAN TO OPEN UP BY 10:00 A.M. ALL EMBASSY AND USAID EMPLOYEES ARRIVED AT WORK WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. AS OF 11:00 A.M., THERE HAD BEEN NO INJURED BROUGHT TO THE HOSPITAL, AND ALL IN TOWN SEEMS CALM.

REACTION OF MRND AND CDR

8. ALTHOUGH THE MRND AND THE CDR PARTICIPATED IN THE MDR RALLY TWO WEEKS AGO, THEY DECIDED TO OPT OUT OF THIS ONE. PERHAPS BECAUSE OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE AMERICAN AND OTHER WESTERN EMBASSIES, THE MRND WENT OUT IN THE STREET WITH SOUND TRUCKS YESTERDAY CALLING ON ALL MRND ADHERENTS TO STAY AWAY FROM THE DEMONSTRATION. ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE, THE CDR ALSO DECIDED TO STAY AWAY, POINTING OUT THAT THE MDR DIDN'T SUPPORT THEIR RALLY ON OCTOBER 24, SO WHY SHOULD THEY SUPPORT THE MDR.

9. COMMENT: THE FIRM STAND TAKEN BY THE MRND WAS MOTIVATED LARGELY BY EFFORTS TO KEEP THE MRND UNITED, RATHBR THAN HAVE IT SPLIT ON ETHNIC GROUNDS AS THE MDR AND PL ARE DOING. BUT IT WAS ALSO AN

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UNDERSTANDING BY THE KEY LEADERS OF THE MRND,
ESPECIALLY PRESIDENT NGIRUMPATSE, MINISTER OF
INTERIOR MUNYAZESA, AND CABINET DIRECTOR AT THE
PRESIDENCY RUHIGIRA, THAT THE FORMATION OF THE
POLITICAL AGENDA ON ETHNIC GROUNDS AT THIS DELICATE
TIME COULD THREATEN THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT FORMATION
PROCESS UNDER THE ARUSHA ACCORD. THEIR WISDOM AT
THIS POINT KEPT MOST HUTU HARDLINERS FROM THE MRND AT
HOME.

IMPACT ON GTBE

10. THE MOST HOPEFUL SCENARIO IS THAT THE PARMEHUTU
LEADERS OF THE MDR WILL RECOGNIZE THAT, AGAINST A
DETERMINED AND UNITED GOVERNMENT, THEY DO NOT HAVE
THE SIZE OR DETERMINATION OR FOLLOWING TO WREST
CONTROL FROM THEIR COMPETITORS IN THE PARTY. IN
PRINCIPLE THIS SHOULD LEAD TO A COMPROMISE WITHIN THE
MDR. BUT ACCORDING TO FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER
NGULINZIRA, HIS FRIENDS WERE NOT LOOKING FOR THAT
MESSAGE. HE TOLD DCM THE DAY BEFORE THE MARCH THAT
THEY CONTINUED TO INSIST ON THE REPLACEMENT OF
TWAGIRAMUNGU, ALTHOUGH HE DID ADMIT THAT THE ETHNIC
BASIS OF THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN SEEMED TO CONTRADICT OF
THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ARUSHA ACCORD WHICH HE
NEGOTIATED. END COMMENT.

11. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. FLATEN

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